



City of Falls Church

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The City Proclaims September as National Preparedness Month

FALLS CHURCH, VA. – At its regularly scheduled City Council meeting held Monday, September 13, Mayor Daniel E. Gardner proclaimed September as National Preparedness Month, joining the Department of Homeland Security, the American Red Cross, numerous elected officials at all levels of government, and national and local organizations that have partnered together to educate Americans about how to prepare for a disaster.

In the City's proclamation, Mayor Gardner stressed the importance of getting a kit, making a plan, and being informed before a disaster strikes stating that the City's highest priority is to ensure the safety and security of its citizens from emergencies and disasters of all kinds, including terrorism.

As this region has experienced a number of man-made and natural emergencies, including the September 11 attacks on the Pentagon, in which the City's fire, police and sheriff's departments aided in those rescue and recovery efforts; the sniper attacks; and most recently, Hurricane Isabel, the City knows far too well the importance of planning in advance for an emergency.

National Preparedness Month is designed to educate the public on how they can take responsibility for their safety and security as part of a larger effort to strengthen the ability of the City to prevent, respond to and recover from unexpected emergencies and disasters. City citizens can greatly reduce the potential for death, injury and property loss by taking appropriate preparedness measures before, during and after a disaster. All month, the City will educate the public through articles, via its website, its local cable channel, the Falls Church Community Television station, and through other vehicles about the importance of putting together a disaster kit, making a plan, and being informed - in order to make preparedness a priority at home, at work, and while traveling.

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